

out, not because of his trademark bow tie, but because of his dogged desire to eliminate our crushing debt burden and his willingness to take the tough medicine necessary to accomplish that goal. Moreover, PAUL has keenly understood our obligation to repay not only the public debt but also the debt owed to Social Security and other government trust funds.

In addition to his efforts to get our Nation's finances in order, PAUL SIMON has been a tireless advocate for the need to expand educational opportunities for all Americans. Specifically, he has been a leader in ensuring that those with disabilities receive public education, in combating illiteracy through passage of the National Literacy Act, and more recently, in expanding access to higher education by championing the direct college loan program.

While all of us in this body will sorely miss his leadership and cordiality, our loss is Southern Illinois University's gain where PAUL will head up the Simon Public Policy Institute. We wish both him and his wife Jeanne the very best in all their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BILL BRADLEY

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to bid farewell to the senior Senator from New Jersey, Senator BILL BRADLEY. Since the first day this professional basketball player walked onto the floor of the Senate in 1979, I have been proud to work closely with him on numerous issues.

As all Senators know, we spend hours on the Senate floor, toiling away on legislation that affects our home States, other Members' States, and America as a whole. But, I believe BILL BRADLEY will be most-remembered for his endless struggle to rewrite our tax code in the Tax Reform Act of 1986, his unwavering dedication to reform our campaign finance system, and his tireless efforts to protect the health and welfare of American men, women, and children.

I remember well when, in June of 1986, the Senate overwhelmingly supported the Tax Relief Act by a vote of 97-3. Although this legislation was guided carefully through the Congress by Senator Bob Packwood, I would like to take the time today to give credit where credit is due. Without the dedication of the Senator from New Jersey, this bill would have died a thousand deaths on its journey from the House Ways and Means Committee to President Reagan's desk.

After we passed this monumental legislation, Senator BRADLEY said, "Each senator was willing to sacrifice something that was important to his or her State to do what was in the best interest of the country." Thank goodness for Senator BRADLEY's foresight and coalition building. Without him, many of those gaping tax loopholes we closed would still exist and millions of low-in-

come Americans would have fallen well-below the poverty line.

I also would like to commend BILL BRADLEY for joining me in our fight to reform the campaign finance system through a constitutional amendment. I will miss his assistance behind-the-scenes and on the Senate floor and am hopeful that he will continue to work toward a fair and equitable system for all political candidates when he leaves this distinguished body.

Mr. President, I cannot leave the floor without mentioning Senator BRADLEY's commitment to the health and well-being of American men, women, and children. During the 104th Congress, he fought against cuts to the Food Stamp Program, the WIC Program, Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. Indeed, he joined me and 33 other Senators in 1995 to protect the Social Security Trust Fund by voting against the balanced budget amendment. That vote took courage, Mr. President, and I commend him for it.

In closing, I would like to address the good Senator's work on legislation which we recently passed here in the Senate and which the President has signed into law. Known around Senator BRADLEY's office as the "Baby Bill," the Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act of 1995 will ease the worry of many families experiencing the miracle of childbirth. Thanks to BILL BRADLEY, hospitals will be required to protect the health of new mothers and their infants for a minimum of 48 hours following a vaginal birth and a 96-hour stay after Caesarean births. I was pleased to co-sponsor this bill and am thrilled that Senator BRADLEY can leave the Senate following such a grand accomplishment.

Mr. President, to say that BILL BRADLEY will be missed in the Senate is an understatement. Although he is retiring as a U.S. Senator, I do not believe we have heard the last of BILL BRADLEY in the political arena. I wish him, his wife, Ernestine, and their daughter, Theresa Anne, all the best for the future and a safe journey home to Montclair.

A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR ALAN SIMPSON

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise at this time to pay tribute to my friend and colleague, ALAN SIMPSON, who is retiring after serving for 18 years in this body.

None of us should have been surprised by AL's entrance into politics. After all, he learned firsthand about the life of a public servant from his father, Milward, who served the people of Wyoming as Governor from 1954 to 1958 and as a U.S. Senator from 1962 to 1966.

After graduating from college, AL SIMPSON began serving his country as a 2d lieutenant in the U.S. Army where he was a member of the 5th Infantry Division and the 2d Armored Division during the Army Occupation in Germany. In 1956, he returned home, went

to law school, and joined his father's law firm in Cody, WY. In 1964, he was elected to the State legislature where he represented his home county for 13 years.

Mr. President, regardless of whether one thinks that it was destiny or industry that brought AL SIMPSON to Washington, his 18 years of service have left an indelible legislative mark.

Since he became chairman of the Judiciary Committee's Immigration Subcommittee, the Senator from Wyoming has worked assiduously in developing tough laws to crack down on illegal immigration and commonsense policies to govern legal immigration. Indeed, it is a fitting testament to his efforts that one of the last measures passed in the 104th Congress was an immigration reform bill that he authored.

But immigration is just one of the many contentious issues that ALAN has been willing to take on. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, he recognized the demographic strains that Social Security and Medicare will face in the coming decades and was one of the first Senators to bring serious attention to this issue.

Mr. President, AL SIMPSON and I have agreed on many issues and disagreed on many others, but as one trial lawyer to another, I have always had a profound respect for his directness, his tenacity, his candor, and most of all, his ability to tell a good joke. While we shall all miss his good humor and good counsel, we wish both him and his wife, Ann, all the best in their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise in tribute to one of the great non-partisan, effective Senators of this body, NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM.

Senator KASSEBAUM's 18 years in the Senate have been marked by shifts back and forth in control of the Senate. She was elected into the minority, came into the majority within 2 years, returned to the minority in her second term, and recently returned to the majority.

She has been the Senator we needed in these times. Whichever direction the winds of partisanship blew, she was the safe haven for compromise and progress in the public interest. That is why her endorsement is courted so assiduously on both sides.

Mr. President, I emphasize that the winds have blown back and forth, but Senator KASSEBAUM has fixed on the great issues that concern all Americans and sought the solutions we needed. I remember when we saw skyrocketing deficits in this body that we worked together to make a freeze work. I had a "Fritz Freeze" and she had a "K. G. B." freeze—KASSEBAUM, GRASSLEY, BIDEN, and BAUCUS. Finally, we worked together in 1987 on a joint, compromise freeze. She has also tackled limiting campaign spending from a Constitutional point of view. We all